

MINUTES
TOMSA board meeting
Monday, March 17, 2014

The meeting was video recorded. Unlike many past meetings when noise from the HVAC duct made discussion inaudible, the HVAC system wasn't running at this meeting. If you have any questions about what was discussed, call TOMSA at 732-495-1010.

The public meeting began at 8 p.m. and ended at 8:35 p.m.

Six board members were present: Michael Ostrander (alternate), Emil Wrede (vice chair), Chantal Bouw (chair), Charles Rogers, Andrew Zapcic, and Joan Smith (Secretary/Treasurer).

Board member Tom Stokes (alternate) was **absent**.

Also present were Raymond Nierstedt (director), Richard Leahey (attorney), Brian Rischman (staff engineer), George Nole (maintenance manager), and Brian Hrycyk (superintendent). Sue Braisefield, a colleague of engineer John Van Dorpe, attended in his place.

Absent were William Meyler (auditor), and Marie Schillberg (recording secretary).

The minutes for the February 19, 2014 regular meeting were adopted, 4-0. Smith abstained as she was not at the February meeting. The agenda does not state if these are the minutes for the public session or executive session or both, and no mention was made at the meeting. Typically, the minutes adopted here are the public session minutes only.

The consent agenda was adopted (Resolutions 27/14 through 30/14). This includes payment of operating bills, payment from certain accounts and movement of monies between accounts designated for specific purposes.

That was followed by the Engineer's report:

- NJEIT (Environmental Infrastructure Trust) funding has been applied for and includes several projects.
- A board member asked if any additional grant funding had been found and was told that all available funding had been applied for.
- There were no sewer connection plans to review the past month.
- Emory Drive pump station improvements were discussed. A question was raised whether or not to wait on FEMA monies before ordering equipment, which could increase in price in the meantime.

Resolution 31/14 was adopted, authorizing the executive director and staff engineer as signatories for a NJDEP form.

The Executive Director gave a report:

- Cold weather has been hard on primary tanks. One was out of service briefly for maintenance, but is back online now.
- TOMSA received a JIF safety award—a plaque only, not money. Nierstedt said it was routine for the most part.
- Clay Pit pumping station has had clogging problems. The problem had been traced back to a nursing home and was addressed with management there at two meetings.
- A mechanic's position is open. They are interviewing.
- Several TOMSA staff members attended a JIF liability seminar. Some also attended a technology transfer session in March, which is needed to keep licenses current.
- TOMSA confirmed with JCP&L that it is a priority customer. Service delays during Sandy resulted from substations being down.
- Sloan Kettering's connection application was just received.
- Revenue is down 12%, expenses are down 14% for the past month.
- They are working on closing out the 2013 budget year.

- The volume treated in the last month was 6.4 million gallons a day, up quite a bit from prior month, though in line with wet weather and patterns for other authorities for the same period.
- A pending agreement with Coastal Discharges Group was discussed. Nierstedt said he spoke to the group chair, and that the DEP has accepted the agreement, though no letter had been received from DEP yet. He said that after the agreement was final, TOMSA's ammonia testing would drop from every day to one time per year, and that the 'mix' would be expanded from 300 to 1000 feet into the ocean.
- a section of pipe is eroded near McDonald's. TOMSA may handle itself or outsource work to Rock Solid Construction. Nierstedt noted TOMSA can handle small dig-ups of 3-4 feet – they have a backhoe – but rely on an outside contractor for larger digs.
- Construction Fund analysis was discussed.
- Pending closeout of the 2013 budget was discussed. They are at 98%.

The Staff Engineer gave a report:

- FEMA grant applications and projects were discussed. (time stamp 27:00). Projects include flood gates and Emory Drive pump station flood mitigation.
- It was suggested that NJ senators be contacted to help expedite these projects.
- TOMSA requested a 1-year extension on certain EIT funding for delayed projects.
- TOMSA submitted two requests to EIT for reimbursement totaling \$5700. Turnaround is typically 60-90 days.
- Received a letter from DEP regarding retrofitting diesel vehicles.
- Working to upgrade the payroll / EDP system.

Maintenance manager report:

- A grinder is being rebuilt.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

There were no public comments.

Following the public comment period, the attorney read a general statement announcing the board's intent to enter executive session, which began at about 8:40 PM.